

May 9, 2022

Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) of the State of Washington:

OIC of Washington fully supports the City of Yakima's grant application to install the MLK Jr. Park Community Swimming Pool. OIC of Washington has had an extensive partnership with the City of Yakima which includes managing the city-owned Henry Beauchamp Community Center (HBCC) in southeast Yakima. HBCC is situated less than a mile from MLK Jr. Park and continues to help support families in the area with many services including, but not limited to supervision and public transportation to travel to swimming pools that are four to eight miles away from their home. Depending on the day, staff and youth may have two-hour travel times, bouncing from bus to bus to swim for an hour.

As a community action agency, founded at the height of the Civil Rights movement, our goal is to create equitable and accessible programs and services to communities so all people can live with greater human dignity. Unfortunately, the only two swimming pools in southeast Yakima were closed nearly two decades ago (in 2005).

We are excited to participate in this initiative and encourage you to carry this request for funding. We are available to provide any information you may need. Thank you for your consideration and support!



Anthony Peterson
Interim Chief Executive Officer



Adrienne Garner
Community Services Director



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